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MY OWN ROMANCE

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My own ROMANCE

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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

"THAT FIRST KISS!"

"WHEN HE COMES ALONG!"

YOUR SIGHING HEART WILL SAY THIS WAS THE MOST ROMANTIC TALE YOU'VE EVER READ!

"SHE WALKS IN BEAUTY!"

BUILD THEM UP - *in Minutes* - INTO LONG, BEAUTIFUL NAILS

NOW!

CHARLES OF FIFTH AVENUE 550 FIFTH AVE. New York City, brings to you for the first time at only $1.98, the amazing scientific liquid finger nail builder called **MAGIC NAIL FORMULA #77.** It actually BUILDS up finger nails to ANY LENGTH desired—IN MINUTES! NOT a weak paste on nail. **Magic Nail Formula #77** is a wonderful liquid. It is brushed on like nail polish on your own finger nails and hardens into glamorous long beautiful finger nails that are STRONGER THAN YOUR OWN! Becomes part of your own finger nails and may be filed, cut and shaped. **Magic Nail Formula #77** also repairs and smooths broken, and chewed nails!

DON'T HIDE YOUR HANDS! NOW YOU CAN SHOW THEM OFF!

JUST FOLLOW THESE 3 EASY STEPS
1 Insert Platform Under Short Nail
2 Brush On Magic Nail Liquid Over Nail and Platform
3 Shape New Finger Nail and Polish

GUARANTEED 100% to give you LONG, BEAUTIFUL FINGER NAILS - *in Minutes!*

FACTS ABOUT AMAZING MAGIC NAIL FORMULA #77

1. It is completely safe.
2. Not a paste on. Magic Nail Formula #77 is a liquid and powder.
3. When brushed on to your finger it hardens into a beautiful nail that is stronger than your own!
4. Will build your nails up to any length desired! — in minutes
5. Repairs broken or chewed nails in minutes!
6. Good for Nail Biters — even children! So strong, it can't be chewed!
7. Looks real and feels real!
8. Makes your hands look more glamorous!
9. Strong! — Cannot break or tear! Do housework, wash, type, play piano!
10. Lasts and lasts indefinitely!

ONLY $1.98 FOR GIANT $5.00 COMPLETE KIT

NEVER BEFORE AT THIS LOW PRICE!

GIANT SIZE! FREE TRIAL

WHAT SOME USERS OF MAGIC NAIL FORMULA #77 SAY ABOUT IT:

"As a housewife my finger nails were always broken and short. My hands looked ugly! In minutes with your Magic Nail Formula #77 I made my nails long and beautiful! It's easy to use, my nails never break and they last and last!"

Mrs. E. D., Brooklyn, N. Y.

* * * *

"I used Magic Nail Formula #77 on my young daughter's nails because she always chewed them short and they looked terrible! They're beautiful now and so strong, she can't chew them!"

Mrs. R. S., N.Y.C.

RUSH YOUR ORDER NOW

Professional nail treatment in beauty salons cost up to $15.00! The complete MAGIC NAIL FORMULA #77 KIT, during this special introductory offer, costs you ONLY $1.98

NO RISK OFFER! MAIL NOW!

CHARLES OF FIFTH AVENUE
MAIL ORDER DEPT M-12
550 FIFTH AVE., N. Y. N. Y.

GUARANTEED *lovely, glamorous nails*

☐ Send C.O.D. $5 Kit of MAGIC NAIL FORMULA #77 for only $1.98. I will pay postman $1.98 on delivery, plus C.O.D. charges and postage.

☐ CHECK HERE TO SAVE MONEY! Enclosed is $1.98. Please rush 1 kit of MAGIC NAIL FORMULA #77. I save 50¢ C.O.D. charges and postage.

MY NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____

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SHE WALKS in BEAUTY

I WANTED TO SUCCEED AS A MODEL, DESPERATELY SO, BUT THERE WAS SOMETHING ELSE----
A SECRET, WISHFUL LONGING I DARED NOT REVEAL FULLY EVEN TO MYSELF...

YOU'RE NOT THINKING, GILDA! YOU'RE NOT MADE OF STONE! IT'S WRONG! ALL WRONG!

WORKING WITH WALTER SLOANE WASN'T EASY! IN A SENSE HE DISCOVERED ME... GROOMED ME FOR SUCCESS! BUT HE WAS A DIFFICULT TASKMASTER...

WHAT'S COME OVER YOU TODAY, GILDA?

I'M SORRY, WALTER! I-IT'S JUST THAT I HAD AN APPOINTMENT... FOR THIS EVENING!

AN APPOINTMENT! WITH WHOM? WHERE? DOING WHAT?

A FRIEND OF MY BROTHER'S! HE ASKED ME WEEKS AGO... TO GO TO HIS COLLEGE DANCE!

NO! I FORBID IT! DANCING ALL NIGHT AND THEN WHAT ABOUT TOMORROW? HOW WILL YOUR WORK GO?

I KNOW, WALTER, BUT HE'S ASKED SO MANY TIMES! I--I THOUGHT JUST THIS ONCE...

THE ANGER LEFT, BUT THE EXPRESSION REMAINED GRIM! I RESPECTED HIM DEEPLY, BUT AT TIMES I WAS ALSO AFRAID...

GILDA! YOU WILL NOT GO DANCING, AND TIRE YOURSELF OUT! IF I AM TO CONTINUE AS PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR OF YOUR CAREER, I INSIST THAT YOU FOLLOW MY RULES... IS THAT CLEAR?

YES, WALTER... PERFECTLY...

AS I LEFT I TURNED BACK TO LOOK, I KNEW HE WOULD BE THERE, LEANING HEAVILY ON HIS CANE BUT WITH AN AIR OF PRIDE ABOUT HIM AS I HAD SEEN IN NO OTHER MAN...

I CAN'T DISOBEY HIM! I JUST COULDN'T...

SO THE GRIND WENT ON! GRUELLING HOURS BENEATH THE LIGHTS; THE BITING CRITICISMS IN WHICH WALTER WAS SO FLUENT...

YOU'RE DROPPING YOUR CHIN LIKE A HOUND DOG SNIFFING A TRAIL! YOU'VE GOT TO LEARN TO TAKE A FIXED POSITION AND KEEP IT!

ON AND ON IT SEEMED! THE POSING, THE RETAKES, THE CONSTANT DRIVE FOR PERFECTION...

EYELIDS OPEN JUST A BIT! THAT'S BETTER... HOLD IT!

THESE LAST TAKES, WALTER! THEY DID GO BETTER, DIDN'T THEY?

PERHAPS, BUT STILL NOT GOOD ENOUGH! WE'LL TRY AGAIN IN THE MORNING! GOOD NIGHT, GILDA!

AND THEN IT HAPPENED! ONE DAY SEVERAL MONTHS LATER, WHEN I CAME TO THE STUDIO FOR A SERIES OF POSES...

I'VE NEWS, GILDA! THE COLEMAN AGENCY HAS SHOWN INTEREST IN THE LAST SERIES I TOOK OF YOU!

THE COLEMAN AGENCY! HOW WONDERFUL...

I HAVE A FEELING THIS IS IT!

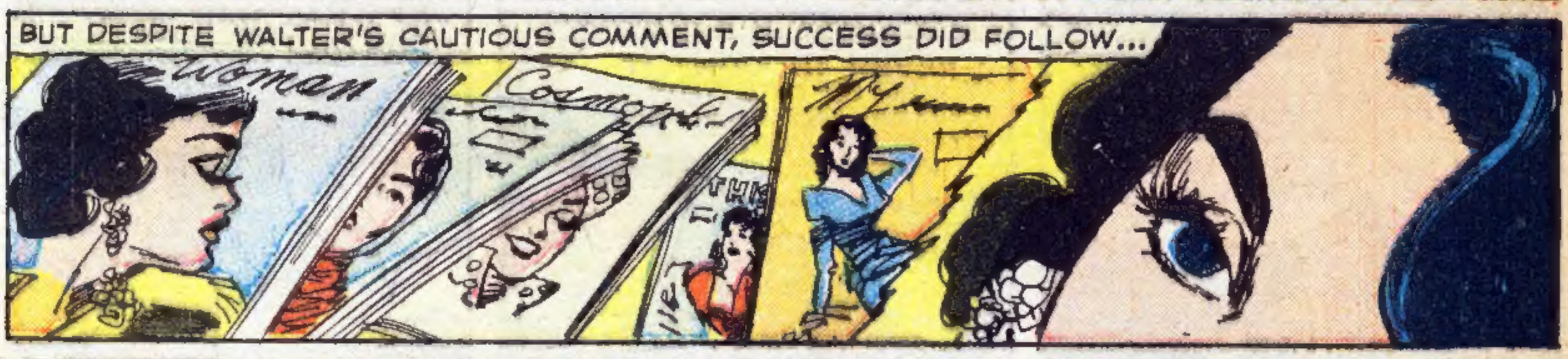
IT WAS SHEER IMPULSE THAT MADE ME DO WHAT I DID NEXT... WITHOUT REALIZING IT, I THREW MY ARMS AROUND WALTER'S NECK...

AND I'VE YOU TO THANK FOR EVERYTHING!

WE DON'T WANT TO BE PREMATURE IN OUR ENTHUSIASM, GILDA! I ADMIT IT'S ENCOURAGING NEWS, BUT YOU'RE NOT THERE YET!

OF COURSE, WALTER! I-I'M SORRY I LOST MY HEAD!

BUT DESPITE WALTER'S CAUTIOUS COMMENT, SUCCESS DID FOLLOW...



THEN THE ROUND OF EXCITING EVENTS BEGAN! THE COCKTAIL PARTIES, THE ATTENTION OF OF HANDSOME, SUCCESSFUL MEN! IN SHORT, I WAS CATCHING UP ON ALL THE THINGS I HAD MISSED...

HOW ABOUT SOME TENNIS THIS SUNDAY!

SOUNDS LIKE FUN, KEN, BUT BETTER GIVE ME A CALL ON FRIDAY! I'M AWFULLY BUSY THESE DAYS!

WHAT MORE COULD I HAVE WANTED? I WAS A SUCCESS AND HAD THE CHOICE OF SEVERAL TEMPTING OFFERS! THEN THERE WAS MARRIAGE...

YOU'RE A MILLION MILES AWAY, GILDA! BORED WITH ME?

NO, KEN... JUST THINKING...

WHY DON'T YOU SAY YES! WE CAN GET MARRIED THIS WEEK AND HAVE A HONEYMOON CRUISE AROUND THE WORLD! I'D DO EVERYTHING TO MAKE YOU HAPPY!

I KNOW THAT KEN, BUT I'M NOT READY FOR MARRIAGE ...NOT YET!

THEN ONE NIGHT THE EXCITEMENT WENT OUT OF THINGS...

YOU'RE NOT LEAVING SO EARLY, GILDA!

I'M AFRAID SO, ALEX! PLEASE SAY GOOD NIGHT FOR ME!

IT CAME AS A REVELATION, AN AWARENESS TO SOMETHING I HAD ONLY HALF FELT, A STIRRING UP OF EMOTION THAT BROUGHT SUDDEN CLARITY AND SWIFT DECISION...

I'VE GOT TO SEE HIM... I MUST...

IT HAD BEEN ALMOST TWO MONTHS SINCE I'D SEEN HIM! MY SUCCESS ASSURED, WALTER HAD STEPPED ASIDE! HIS WORK ACCOMPLISHED, HIS INTEREST HAD WANED!

GILDA! THIS LATE?

I HAVE TO SPEAK TO YOU, WALTER! PLEASE!

HE SUGGESTED THE PARK NOT FAR FROM HIS STUDIO...

I NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD BE LIKE THIS... SO MEANINGLESS... SO EMPTY OF REAL PURPOSE!

THEN I FACED HIM, SPEAKING WHAT WAS IN MY HEART...

AND I'VE MISSED YOU, WALTER... MOST OF ALL!

NO! NOW YOU'RE TALKING NONSENSE!

MAKING YOU A SUCCESS WAS A CHALLENGE TO MY PROFESSIONAL EGO! YOU ARE A SUCCESS AND I CONSIDERED MYSELF PAID IN FULL! I INSIST THAT YOU PUT ME OUT OF YOUR THOUGHTS!

I WILL, WALTER, BUT FACE ME FIRST! THEN TELL ME TO GO AWAY, AND I'LL OBEY YOU... AS I'VE ALWAYS DONE...

HE TURNED SLOWLY AND OUR EYES MET! THE LONG MOMENTS PASSED IN SILENCE, AND THEN I KNEW, KNEW WHAT I HAD DARED NOT TELL MYSELF BEFORE...

YOU DON'T WANT ME TO GO, DARLING! I DO MEAN SOMETHING TO YOU!

SUDDENLY I WAS IN HIS ARMS, AND THE VEIL OF DARKNESS WAS SUDDENLY LIFTED...

YOU MEAN EVERYTHING, GILDA... ONLY I NEVER DARED HOPE! A MAN DEPENDING ON HIS CANE! I HAD NO RIGHT... NOT EVEN TO HOPE!

BUT YOU DID, DARLING! EVERY RIGHT IN THE WORLD!

BECAUSE I LOVED YOU ALMOST FROM THE START! THERE I WAS, AFRAID OF YOU AND LOVING YOU AT THE SAME TIME, AND BETWEEN THE TWO SO TERRIBLY CONFUSED!

IT'S OVER WITH, DARLING! OVER WITH NOW...

OUR LIPS MET, AND IN THAT MOMENT I EXPERIENCED HAPPINESS SUCH AS I HAD NEVER KNOWN... FAR GREATER THAN ANY MATERIAL SUCCESS OR FAME COULD BRING...

The End

LOVE IN ARMS

LORNA TENNEY'S slim form poised at the end of the diving board of Middlestate's big co-ed swimming pool, hesitating for just an instant. Below her, watching, attentive, stood Joe Rogan, foreman of the contracting crew that had put the finishing touches to the pool only a few days before.

Her heart skipped a beat. Joe, she decided, was the handsomest man she'd ever known, handsomer even than Bill Norrell, Middlestate's swimming coach. And Joe, she knew, was even more admiring.

Then she started her dive. Through the clear, transparent air she went down in a smooth curve and disappeared beneath the sapphire-blue waters almost without a ripple. When she came up, Joe, bending over the steel exit-stairway, gave her a hand out.

"Swell form," he said. "Too good for an amateur dump like this."

"If I really thought you meant that, Joe," she said excitedly, "Why I'd . . ."

"You'd take my advice and sign up with that professional group," he said decisively. "You're wasting your time here, Lorna. With swimming talent like yours you could make plenty—but only if you do it in time."

"That means I'd have to give up swimming in the last intercollegiate meet," she mused.

"So what?" Joe said. "You ought to be grateful for the opportunity. What will those dubs do for you? You're entitled to make a lot of money for yourself. And I wouldn't say it if I didn't know you could do it. I've done a lot of work for professional syndicates in swimming—and I ought to know! Going around the country building these pools gives me a good look-see in at the talent. That's why the syndicate trusts me." He looked at her levelly. "Sure I make extra dough that way. Why not? I'm not ashamed of it. It's honest money acting as talent scout while I have my eyes open to begin with."

Lorna decided she liked Joe's candidness. And it was true he ought to know what he was talking about. He ought to know even better than Bill Norrell who was a swimming coach. Her lip curled as she remembered Bill's opinion — Bill who had even said he loved her, when she'd asked him whether he thought she could be a real world champion. He'd thought seriously and shaken his head.

"If there's one thing I'm perfectly serious about it's my own profession," Bill had said. "You're one of the best swimmers Middlestate's teams ever had. But — you're not championship material, Lorn. You'd shine bright for a while, but it takes stamina. You've got the will to win, but, well — everybody has their limitations, and as your coach I don't think you have the wind."

She remembered how cold his remarks had left her. And yet, she knew he thought he'd been honest. But he'd had no faith in her—and Joe had. Joe really appreciated her, she realized.

"You'd have to leave college real soon," Joe said.

"Maybe I will, Joe," she replied. "In fact I think I . . . oh, Bill!"

Bill Norrell, in swimming trunks, stood there suddenly, smiling.

"Glad you're training, Lorn," he said. "We've got plenty to do before . . ."

"I'm leaving college, Bill," Lorna said. "I'm not participating in the last meet. Joe's convinced me I'd do better as a professional."

"Sure, and there might even be a Hollywood offer eventually," Joe said with assurance. "It often happens."

Bill ignored him.

"You're running out on your team mates, Lorna," he said. "And you're running out on me. I—thought we'd be seeing a lot of each other from now on, working closer together."

"You — you know I'd love that, Bill," she replied. "But I do have to think of myself, too." Her voice suddenly sharpened. "And I don't think I'm running out on anybody. After all, you told me yourself I wasn't a champion, a world beater. You can replace me easily."

Bill looked at her gravely.

"Yes, I told you that. It's the truth. Maybe you just can't get used to it. But you're a fine swimmer anyway, a swimmer Middlestate can be proud of . . ."

"Not any more," she said.

Bill looked at her again for just half a moment. Then he turned on his heel and left.

"Come on," Joe said. "Get dressed. Meet me at my place at seven and I'll have a contract ready."

CONTINUED

Get Rid of UGLY PIMPLES this new easy way!

Amazing new medicated lotion developed by a doctor works wonders by clearing up complexion in one week or less!

DON'T let a bad complexion ruin romance, spoil your fun, cause you to be embarrassed, shy or ashamed. If you suffer from *acne*, the common external cause of pimples among young people, try this wonderfully effective medicated lotion that was developed by a practicing physician to clear up his own teen ager's complexion after other methods had failed. It has produced astonishing results for many thousands of others. It is GUARANTEED to help you or it won't cost you a single cent!

Doesn't Show On Your Face

Keraplex is a skin-colored lotion (NOT a greasy salve or ointment!) that is quickly absorbed by the skin and gets right down in the pores where its healing and antiseptic ingredients can go to work. After you have applied it, there is no trace left on the surface. In fact, it makes a perfect powder base for girls and a refreshing after shaving lotion for men . . . actually improves the tone of the skin! It is pleasant and easy to use — leaving your skin soft, clean and fragrant.

Boys and girls—if you have pimples on your shoulders or back, you can avoid embarrassment when they are exposed to view. For Keraplex keeps your shoulders, arms, back and chest wonderfully free from pimples—without soiling clothes, without messiness or greasiness!

Works in SIX Out of SEVEN Cases!

An analysis of RESULTS taken from actual case histories proves that Keraplex is successful in clearing up six of every seven cases of externally caused blackheads and pimples. It tones up the complexion generally, giving it a healthy, radiant glow.

Try This New Method Without Risking A Penny!

Keraplex is GUARANTEED to clear up your skin troubles or there will be NO COST to you whatsoever. If yours happens to be the ONE extra-stubborn case out of seven which Keraplex cannot help in one short week, it will cost you nothing to have tried it. Keraplex is sent to you with that simple, positive GUARANTEE!

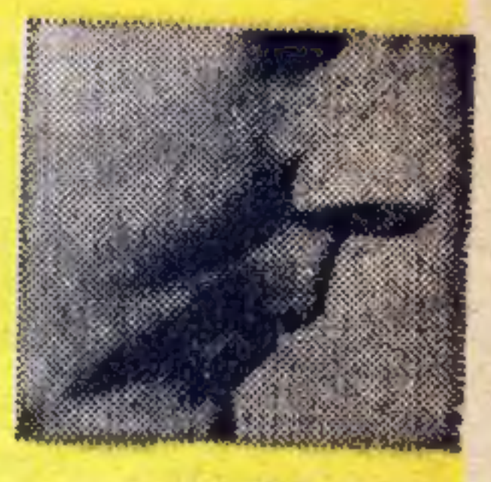
SEND NO MONEY

You need send no money with the coupon below. When postman delivers your Keraplex lotion (in plain wrapper marked "Personal"), deposit with him only the modest price indicated below, plus a few cents postage. Then use your Keraplex morning and night for a full week, following the simple directions which will be enclosed.

If you do not SEE RESULTS that delight you — if you are not fully convinced that Keraplex IS clearing up your complexion — just return the empty bottle or unused portion and the purchase price will be refunded in full. Don't delay a single day. The longer you let your skin troubles go, the more difficult it will be to clear them up and get your complexion back to a healthy, clear, unblemished condition! Clip and mail the coupon TODAY. Underwood Laboratories, Inc., Stratford, Conn.

BEFORE

Note more than a dozen blemishes on just one side of this girl's face before KERAPLEX was applied.



AFTER

Same girl had used KERAPLEX twice a day for only 5 days when above photo was taken. Note the amazing improvement.

BEFORE

This young man suffered from a severe case of acne for years and tried all the usual "remedies" without success.

AFTER

Same young man after using KERAPLEX twice a day for just one week. Notice the decided improvement—pimples completely gone!

WHAT USERS SAY:

"I was suffering from a severe case of acne . . . and with only 4 days' treatment with Keraplex . . . was completely relieved."—P. S.

"I have been completely satisfied with your lotion to help clear up the pimples on my face."—K. W.

"I have used Keraplex and for the first time in my life my pimples are clearing up in good shape. I can't thank you enough!"—E. S.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

UNDERWOOD LABORATORIES, Inc., Dept. 219
STRATFORD, CONN.

Yes! I want to try Keraplex ON APPROVAL. Send size checked below in plain wrapper marked "personal." When it is delivered I will deposit with postman amount indicated below, plus postage. If not delighted with the RESULTS, I will return empty bottle within seven days for a full refund of the purchase price.

☐ Regular Size, $1.98
☐ Double Quantity (Two Bottles), $3.50

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ Zone____ State_____

☐ SAVE POSTAGE. Check here if you ENCLOSE payment, in which case we pay postage. Same money-back Guarantee applies!

Payment must be sent with orders going to A.P.O.'s, Canada and foreign countries, due to postal rules.

IS EIGHTEEN TOO YOUNG FOR MARRIAGE? TONY AND I DIDN'T THINK SO, DESPITE THE CRITICISM, THE WARNINGS AND THE SO-CALLED DANGERS THEY SAID WE WERE SURE TO FACE!

MY PARENTS ARE TOO OLD FASHIONED!

ANNE, DID YOU SPEAK TO YOUR PARENTS AGAIN, AS WE PLANNED?

THREE TIMES, TONY, AND IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME ANSWER...

T-177

THEY STILL THINK WE'RE TOO YOUNG! THEY SAY WE CAN'T EVEN BE SURE WE'RE IN LOVE!

BUT WE ARE! I'VE NEVER BEEN MORE SURE OF ANYTHING ELSE BEFORE! ANOTHER YEAR, TWO, EVEN FIVE, WOULDN'T MAKE ME ANY MORE POSITIVE THAN I AM NOW!

WE WON'T GIVE UP TRYING, ANNE! I'LL COME SEE YOUR PARENTS AGAIN, MAYBE TOGETHER WE CAN CONVINCE THEM!

WE CAN TRY, TONY, ONLY I DON'T THINK IT WILL DO MUCH GOOD!

WITH YOUTHFUL DETERMINATION WE VOWED TO GO ON TRYING, NEVER GIVING UP HOPE, AND IN TONY'S ARMS, OUR LIPS MEETING IN A TENDER KISS, I WAS CERTAIN THAT WE WOULD SUCCEED...

THAT SAME WEEK TONY AND I AGAIN CONSULTED WITH MY PARENTS! TONY'S PLEA WAS ELOQUENT AND MOVING, BUT I'M AFRAID IT WASN'T SUCCESSFUL...

BUT IT ISN'T ANYTHING PERSONAL, TONY! ANNE'S MOTHER AND I THINK YOU'RE A VERY FINE BOY! IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIMING! ALL WE'RE ASKING IS THAT YOU WAIT A REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME! AS IT IS, YOU'RE BOTH QUITE YOUNG!

BUT WE DO LOVE EACH OTHER, AND WITH BOTH OF US GETTING JOBS...

IT'S NOT A QUESTION OF EARNING YOUR WAY, TONY! YOUNG PEOPLE DO MANAGE THESE DAYS! IT'S SOMETHING FAR MORE IMPORTANT! I'D EVEN SUGGEST THAT BOTH OF YOU GO OUT WITH OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE YOUR AGE, IF NOT, AT LEAST GIVE US YOUR PROMISE THAT YOU WAIT A YEAR BEFORE EVEN THINKING OF MARRIAGE!

WE HAD TO PROMISE! WE HAD NO CHOICE, BUT WE WERE DETERMINED MORE THAN EVER TO SHOW MY PARENTS, AND THE WORLD IN GENERAL, THAT OURS WAS A SINCERE AND LASTING LOVE...

IMAGINE GOING OUT WITH SOME OTHER GIRL! I JUST COULDN'T! IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE!

I COULDN'T SO MUCH AS DANCE WITH ANOTHER BOY, LET ALONE SPEND AN ENTIRE EVENING WITH HIM!

WE'LL JUST HAVE TO SHOW THEM, TONY, THAT WE DO MEAN EVERYTHING TO EACH OTHER... THAT NO ONE ELSE COULD COUNT!

YOU'RE RIGHT, ANNE! THAT IS IMPORTANT, NOW MORE THAN EVER!

IT WAS IMPORTANT, DESPERATELY SO! ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE WE WERE DETERMINED NOT TO BECOME VICTIMS TO THE PITFALLS GENERALLY LINKED TO THE YOUNG IN HEART...

WHAT DOES A YEAR REALLY MATTER, WHEN THERE WILL BE SO MANY? TIME CAN'T HURT US, TONY! NOTHING CAN HURT A LOVE LIKE OURS!

INSTEAD OF SEEKING OUT THE COMPANIONSHIP OF OTHERS, WE SOUGHT OUT OUR OWN COMPANY MORE AND MORE! AS THE WEEKS PASSED TONY AND I WERE INSEPARABLE...

MORE AND MORE WE WANTED EVERYONE TO KNOW HOW WE FELT ABOUT EACH OTHER! BEING TOGETHER WAS LIKE TAKING A STAND, A UNITY THAT SEEMED TO GIVE US STRENGTH AND PURPOSE...

THEY SEEM TO BE AROUND OUR AGE, TONY, AND YET I FEEL WE'RE SO DIFFERENT! NOT THAT I THINK THEY'RE CHILDISH, BUT WE HAVE SO MUCH MORE!

YOU'RE RIGHT, ANNE, AND FOR ONE REASON... WE HAVE EACH OTHER!

AS THE TIME PASSED, OUR DEPENDANCE UPON EACH OTHER BECAME EVEN MORE IMPORTANT! TRUE, WE HAD REMOVED OURSELVES FROM OTHERS, AND FROM OUR ISOLATED POSITION WE SAT IN JUDGEMENT, OUR TONE PERHAPS A BIT TOO SMUG...

THEY'RE NOT THE LEAST BIT SERIOUS!

ALWAYS CUTTING UP! IT'S HARD TO THINK WE WERE ONCE PART OF IT!

WE LEFT SOON AFTERWARDS, TO WALK ALONG QUIET SHADED STREETS! I THOUGHT BACK TO THE CROWD AND TO TONY AND MYSELF, UNTIL TONY BROKE THE SILENCE...

YOU'RE PRETTY QUIET, ANNE! ANYTHING WRONG?

NO TONY... JUST THINKING! NOTHING REALLY IMPORTANT!

BUT IT WAS IMPORTANT, AND THE MORE I THOUGHT OF IT THE MORE IMPORTANT IT BECAME... I WAS STILL THINKING OF IT AS I PREPARED FOR BED...

I WONDER HOW MUCH OF THIS IS FOR REAL... THIS ATTITUDE OF TONY AND MINE? WHY ARE WE SO DEFENSIVE, SO SURE THAT THE OTHERS ARE WRONG AND THAT WE ARE RIGHT?

OR IS IT ME? AM I UNSURE OF SOMETHING, AFRAID? AM I PUSHING TOO HARD, TRYING TO CONVINCE MYSELF OF SOMETHING I'M UNWILLING TO ADMIT! HAS ANYTHING HAPPENED TO TONY AND ME... SOMETHING I'M UNWILLING TO FACE?

THE QUESTIONS KEPT COMING, ONLY THE ANSWERS WERE CONFUSING AND SOME I COULDN'T ANSWER! ALL I KNOW IS THAT IT KEPT ME AWAKE HALF THE NIGHT, AND I MUST HAVE LOOKED IT WHEN I SAT DOWN TO BREAKFAST...

WHAT IS IT, DEAR? YOU LOOK TERRIBLY DRAWN!

IT'S NOTHING, DAD ...I HAD A HEADACHE! WOULDN'T LET ME FALL ASLEEP FOR HOURS!

NOTHING WRONG BETWEEN YOU AND TONY! A TIFF PERHAPS?

NOTHING LIKE THAT, DAD! THAT'S ONE THING ABOUT TONY AND ME, WE NEVER ARGUE!

SOON AFTERWARDS I EXCUSED MYSELF, AND AT A NEARBY PARK I TRIED TO THINK THINGS THROUGH ...DISCOVER THE REASONS BEHIND THIS SUDDEN FLURRY OF DOUBT...

COULD IT BE THAT I'VE BEEN SEEING TOO MUCH OF TONY RECENTLY? ALL I KNOW IS THAT LATELY I HAVE LESS TO SAY! COULD IT BE THAT I'VE BEEN LOSING INTEREST?

THE THOUGHT ITSELF WAS SHOCKING, AND YET I HAD TO PURSUE IT FURTHER! ONCE STARTED THERE WAS NO GOING BACK...

HAVE MY FEELINGS REALLY UNDERGONE A CHANGE? IS IT PRIDE THAT KEEPS ME GOING ON, A VOW TO SEE IT THROUGH NO MATTER WHAT, AS WELL AS A DESIRE NOT TO HURT TONY?

THE THOUGHTS STUNG LIKE THE LASH FROM A WHIP! I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT! I DIDN'T WANT TO...

NO! IT ISN'T TRUE! WHY DO I KEEP TORMENTING MYSELF! NOTHING HAS HAPPENED BETWEEN US... NOTHING!

SO I DRIED MY TEARS AND RETURNED HOME! BUT THAT EVENING, WHEN TONY CALLED, THERE WAS A NOTE OF URGENCY TO HIS VOICE...

CAN I MEET YOU EARLIER TONIGHT, ANNE? IT'S PRETTY IMPORTANT!

SURE, TONY! I'LL BE READY AT SEVEN-THIRTY! 'BYE!

A SUDDEN THOUGHT RACED THROUGH MY MIND! WHAT IF TONY WAS TO ASK ME TO ELOPE? HE HAD SUGGESTED THE IDEA ONCE OR TWICE BEFORE, BUT I HAD BEEN FIRM IN MY REFUSAL...

WHAT IF HE INSISTS, THOUGH? AM I READY TO MARRY TONY, NOW, THIS MOMENT, NO QUESTIONS ASKED? AM I...?

WHEN TONY PICKED ME UP HE WAS STRANGELY SILENT! IT WAS ONLY WHEN WE WERE ALONE THAT HE BEGAN TO SPEAK, HIS WORDS, HESITANT, UNSURE...

IT'S ABOUT US, ANNE! I DON'T KNOW HOW IT ALL STARTED, BUT LATELY SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED! SOMETHING I...

I LISTENED WITH GROWING SHOCK AND SURPRISE! WHAT I WAS HEARING WAS ALMOST AN ECHO OF MY OWN TROUBLED THOUGHTS...

...AND IT'S JUST THAT LATELY, WELL, IT'S AS THOUGH SOMETHING HAS GONE OUT OF THINGS! OF COURSE HURTING YOU IS THE ONE THING I WANTED TO AVOID, AND YET IN ALL FAIRNESS TO BOTH OF US, I MEAN...

YES, TONY... I THINK I DO UNDERSTAND...

IT WAS THEN, IN THAT MOMENT OF REVELATION, THAT I BECAME CONSCIOUS OF MY PARENTS' ADVICE! IN THEIR MATURE WISDOM THEY SAW WHAT AN EIGHTEEN YEAR OLD COULDN'T POSSIBLY SEE, AND MY EYES WERE MOIST WITH GRATEFUL TEARS...

DON'T HATE ME FOR SAYING THIS, ANNE, BUT MAYBE YOUR PARENTS WERE RIGHT! MAYBE IF WE DID SEE OTHER PEOPLE OUR AGE, MAYBE THEN...

NO, TONY! I DON'T HATE YOU...OR BLAME YOU!

AND YOU'VE BEEN VERY FAIR! I KNOW THIS WAS SOMETHING YOU FOUND HARD TO SAY, BECAUSE I WAS STRUGGLING WITH THE SAME THING! WE NEEDN'T BLAME OURSELVES FOR WHAT HAS HAPPENED, OR ANYONE ELSE! IF ANYTHING WE NEED ONLY BLAME OUR YOUTH AND INEXPERIENCE!

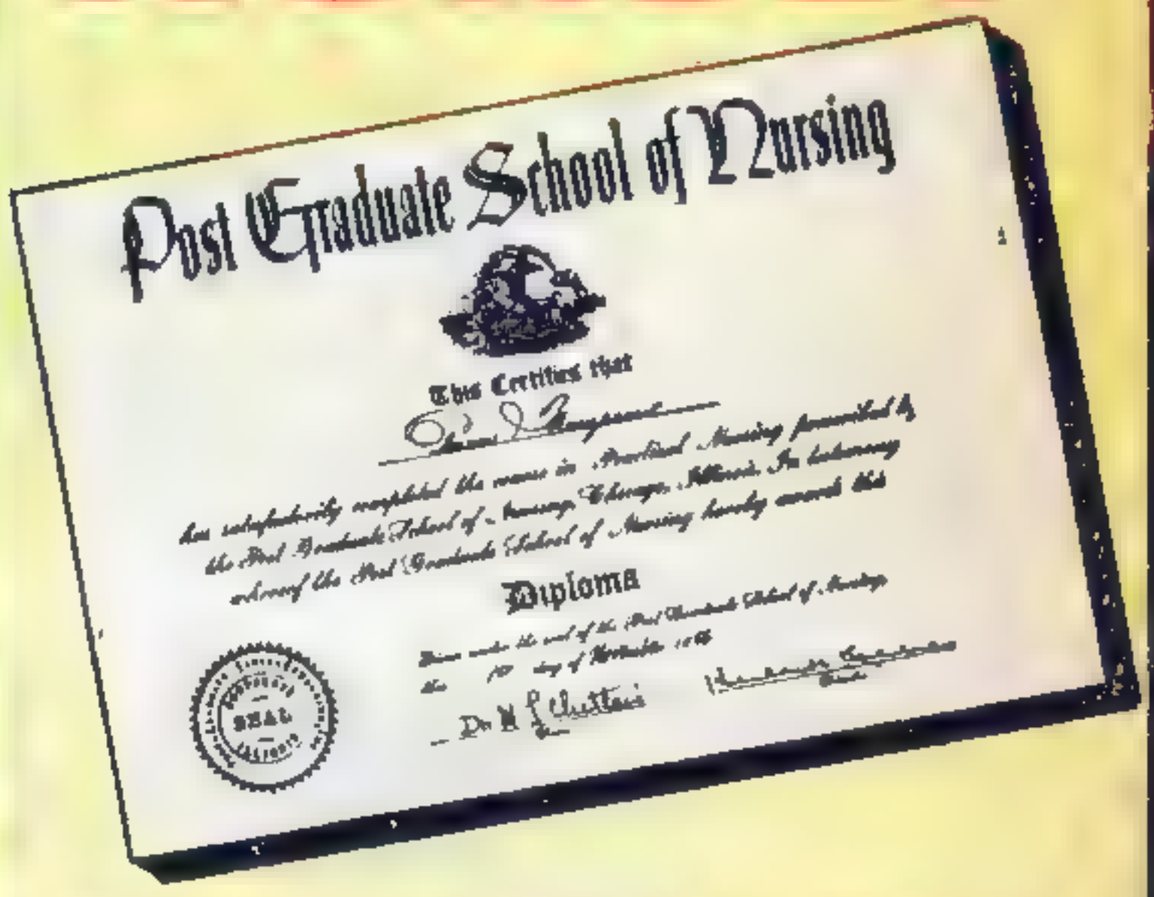
WE SAID GOODBYE AS THE BEST OF FRIENDS! THERE WAS AN EMPTINESS AT FIRST, BUT THAT TOO WENT! TONY ENLISTED IN THE SERVICE AND HAS GONE ON TO MAKE IT HIS CAREER...

I WENT ON TO BUSINESS COLLEGE AND I NEVER REGRETTED IT! I'VE MADE NEW FRIENDS IN A WORLD THAT HAS MADE ME HAPPY! AND SOON, VERY SOON, I KNOW I WILL FIND THE LASTING LOVE WE ALL SEEK...

AND WHEN I THINK OF THE UNHAPPINESS THAT BOTH TONY AND I COULD HAVE HAD, RUSHING INTO MARRIAGE AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE, IT'S THEN THAT I OFFER SOLEMN THANKS TO MY WONDERFUL PARENTS! WHAT I THOUGHT TO BE OLD FASHIONED WAS ACTUALLY WISDOM... A WISDOM WE CAN ALL NOTE WHEN WE EVENTUALLY BECOME PARENTS OURSELVES!

The End

BE A NURSE!



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CITY_____ ZONE____ STATE_____

MY CHANCE FOR ROMANCE

EXCUSE ME, JOYCE, BUT THERE'S A LONG DISTANCE CALL FOR YOU. I TOLD THEM TO HANG ON!

THANKS, GAIL! IT'S PROBABLY DAD! MAYBE I'M GETTING THE NEW CAR HE PROMISED ME!

COLLEGE LIFE WAS STIMULATING, EXCITING, AS WELL AS BEING FUN, BUT THEN, NOTHING LASTS FOREVER, AND WHEN THE CHANGE TOOK PLACE I WAS TOTALLY UNPREPARED...

T-174 Jay Scott Pike

IT WAS DAD ALL RIGHT, BUT IT WASN'T ABOUT THE CAR. THERE WAS AN URGENT TONE TO HIS VOICE, AND IT BROUGHT A TOUCH OF ALARM...

I CAN'T EXPLAIN OVER THE PHONE, JOYCE, BUT YOU COME HOME THIS WEEKEND! IT'S IMPORTANT!

YES, DAD, I'LL BE THERE!

WARNING SIGNALS SEEMED TO FLASH THROUGH MY THOUGHTS. SOMETHING WAS WRONG...

ONLY HOW WRONG... AND HOW WILL IT EFFECT ME?

SATURDAY NIGHT I GOT THE NEWS. IT WAS BAD, FAR WORSE THAN I HAD EXPECTED...

I GUESS THE RECESSION CAUGHT UP WITH ME, HONEY! IT'LL TAKE EVERYTHING TO HANG ON AND SEE IT THROUGH!

I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, DAD! ISN'T THERE SOMETHING I CAN DO?

ONE THING WE'LL HAVE TO DO, WE'LL HAVE TO CUT EXPENSES.. ALL THE WAY! I'M GOING TO DO MY BEST TO KEEP YOU AT COLLEGE, BUT IT WILL MEAN GIVING UP YOUR SORORITY AS A STARTER!

Y...YES, DAD! I UNDERSTAND!

I FELT TERRIBLY ABOUT DAD'S PLIGHT, BUT STILL IT WASN'T EASY GIVING UP THE SORORITY, A PLACE I HAD CALLED HOME FOR ALMOST TWO YEARS

WE HATE SEEING YOU GO, JOYCE, BUT IT WON'T CHANGE ANYTHING! I KNOW I'M SPEAKING FOR ALL THE GIRLS WHEN I SAY YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME HERE!

THANKS, GAIL! THAT'S REAL SWEET!

BUT THIS WASN'T THE END OF THE BAD NEWS, IN FACT IT HAD ONLY BEGUN. ABOUT A MONTH LATER DAD HAD FURTHER NEWS TO IMPART TO ME...

HE'LL ONLY BE ABLE TO MEET THE TUITION FEES! IF I'M TO STAY ON I'LL HAVE TO FIND A JOB... MAKE MY OWN WAY!

NOW THE FEELING OF ISOLATION WAS COMPLETE. I FELT APART, CUT OFF, ALONE IN A HOSTILE WORLD AND DISAPPEARING FRIENDSHIPS...

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY IT, BILL, BUT WITH MY HAVING TO GET A JOB, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE GAME SATURDAY... O..OR THE DANCE!

SURE, JOYCE! THINGS WILL STRAIGHTEN OUT! I'LL TRY TO KEEP IN TOUCH!

I SPENT A WEEK SEARCHING FOR A JOB, RUSHING OUT AFTER CLASSES WERE THROUGH AND CHASING DOWN ONE LEAD AFTER ANOTHER. WHEN I FINALLY GOT BACK TO MY ROOM, TIRED AND LONELY, THE TEARS CAME EASILY..

IT ALL SEEMS SO LONG AGO! BILL... THE DANCES ...THE GOOD TIMES! NOT THAT I BLAME ANYONE! BUT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE NOW! IT CAN NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN...

BUT IF THINGS CAN'T ALWAYS BE GOOD, THEY ARE NEITHER ALWAYS BAD. AT LEAST I DID FIND A JOB...

WE COULD USE AN EXTRA WAITRESS FROM AROUND THE SUPPER HOUR TILL NINE! IT'LL MEAN SIX NIGHTS, INCLUDING SATURDAYS!

I'LL TAKE IT, AND I'M VERY GRATEFUL!

WE'VE GOT A NEW GIRL, WES! WILL YOU SHOW HER AROUND?

TODAY'S SPECIAL ½ FRIED ICKEN VEG- HOT ROLLS

BE RIGHT THERE, MR. BENSON!

WES CAME AS A COMPLETE SURPRISE. HE WAS AROUND MY AGE, HANDSOME AND HAD ABOUT THE FRIENDLIEST SMILE I HAD EVER SEEN...

THIS IS JOYCE, WES! SHE'LL BE ON PART TIME LIKE YOU!

GREAT! IT'S A PLEASURE, JOYCE! I KNOW YOU'LL LIKE WORKING HERE! MR. BENSON'S A SWELL BOSS, AND A REAL UNDER-STANDING GUY!

THA

WHENEVER I HAVE A TEST COMING UP, HE'LL ALWAYS LET ME OFF EARLY TO GET IN SOME STUDYING! I SUPPOSE YOU'RE A STUDENT OVER AT BLAKELY'S TOO!

I AM, ONLY I NEVER THOUGHT THAT YOU... I MEAN...

THERE'S PLENTY OF US WORKING STUDENTS, JOYCE! MAYBE YOU'RE NEW AT IT, BUT IT ISN'T SO BAD, BELIEVE ME! SURE IT'S TOUGH, HANDLING TWO JOBS, BUT YOU'LL MANAGE! I KNOW YOU WILL!

THANKS FOR THE CON-FIDENCE, WES! I FEEL WORLDS BETTER ALREADY!

HOW CAN I EXPLAIN IT, EXCEPT BY SAYING THAT WHAT I DREADED, I NOW LOOKED FORWARD TO... AS THE WEEKS FLEW BY, WES AND I BECAME BETTER AND BETTER FRIENDS...

IT'S SATURDAY NIGHT, JOYCE! HOW ABOUT A MOVIE AFTER WORK?

SOUNDS WONDERFUL!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN!

GIVEN! GIVEN!

YES, WE GIVE YOU PREMIUMS or CASH!

JEWEL BOXES

SCHOOL BAG

PENCIL POUCH

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ACCORDION

22-CALIBRE RIFLES

1000 SHOT DAISY AIR RIFLES

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ALARM CLOCK

BOW & ARROW SETS

TABLE TENNIS SET

BE FIRST

CHROME WRIST WATCH

ROY ROGERS FLASH CAMERA

YESSIREE, A REAL LIVE PONY FOR YOUR VERY OWN!

ELECTRIC BLANKET

RADIOS

BLACK CAMPO SET

AMERICAN ACE HARMONICA

RUBY STONE RING

PENCIL SHARPENERS

DON'T DELAY!

DOLLS

SATELLITE TELESCOPE

ELECTRIC SHAVER

ELECTRIC DEEP FRYERS

ELECTRIC POP-UP TOASTER

BASKET BALL OUTFIT

WATCHES

WAGONS

UKULELES

CATCHER'S MITT

BE THE FIRST!

PLAID BUDDY BAG

TYPEWRITERS

TELESCOPES

FLASHLIGHTS

WALLETS

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PEN AND PENCIL SETS

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BICYCLES

RECORD PLAYER & RECORDS

ACT NOW

YOURS FREE

SEND FOR this big, powerful

MAGIC MAGNIFIER

JUST MAIL COUPON!

THIS IS A TERRIFIC OFFER

LOOK WHAT YOU GET

Yes — we'll send you the MAGIC MAGNIFIER absolutely FREE! Study insects, plant life, rocks, stamps, finger-prints, etc. Also — we'll send WHITE CLOVERINE Brand SALVE & Big Catalog showing dozens of wonderful premiums you can have. Cameras, Dolls, Rifles, Fishing Outfits, Radios, Watches, etc. (Sent postpaid). You simply offer WHITE CLOVERINE Brand SALVE — easily sold to friends, relatives and neighbors at 50c a Tube. Rush coupon to start.

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Paste coupon on postal card or mail in envelope today

WILSON CHEMICAL CO.
DEPT. 148-32 TYRONE, PA.

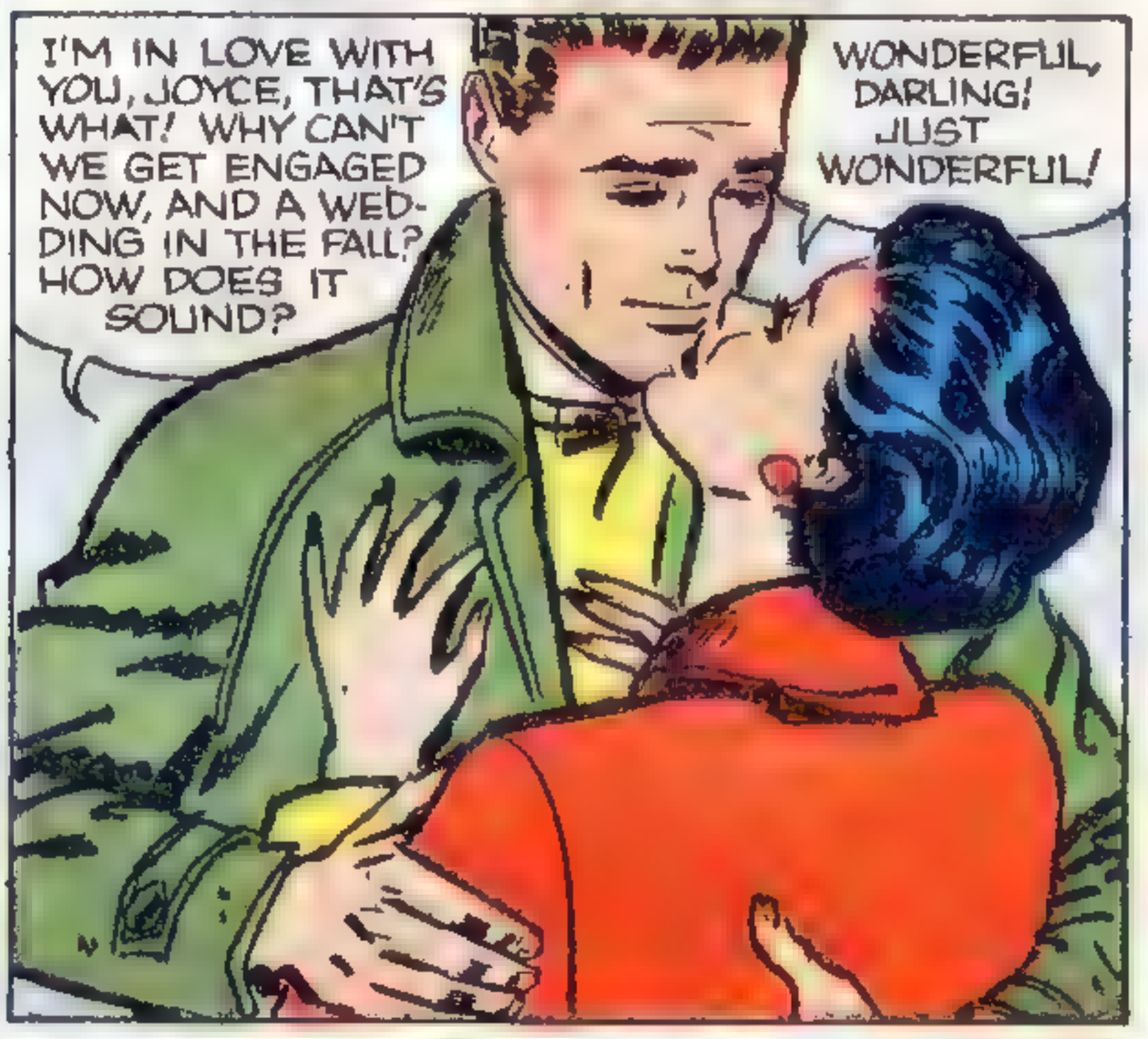
OVER 64 YEARS!

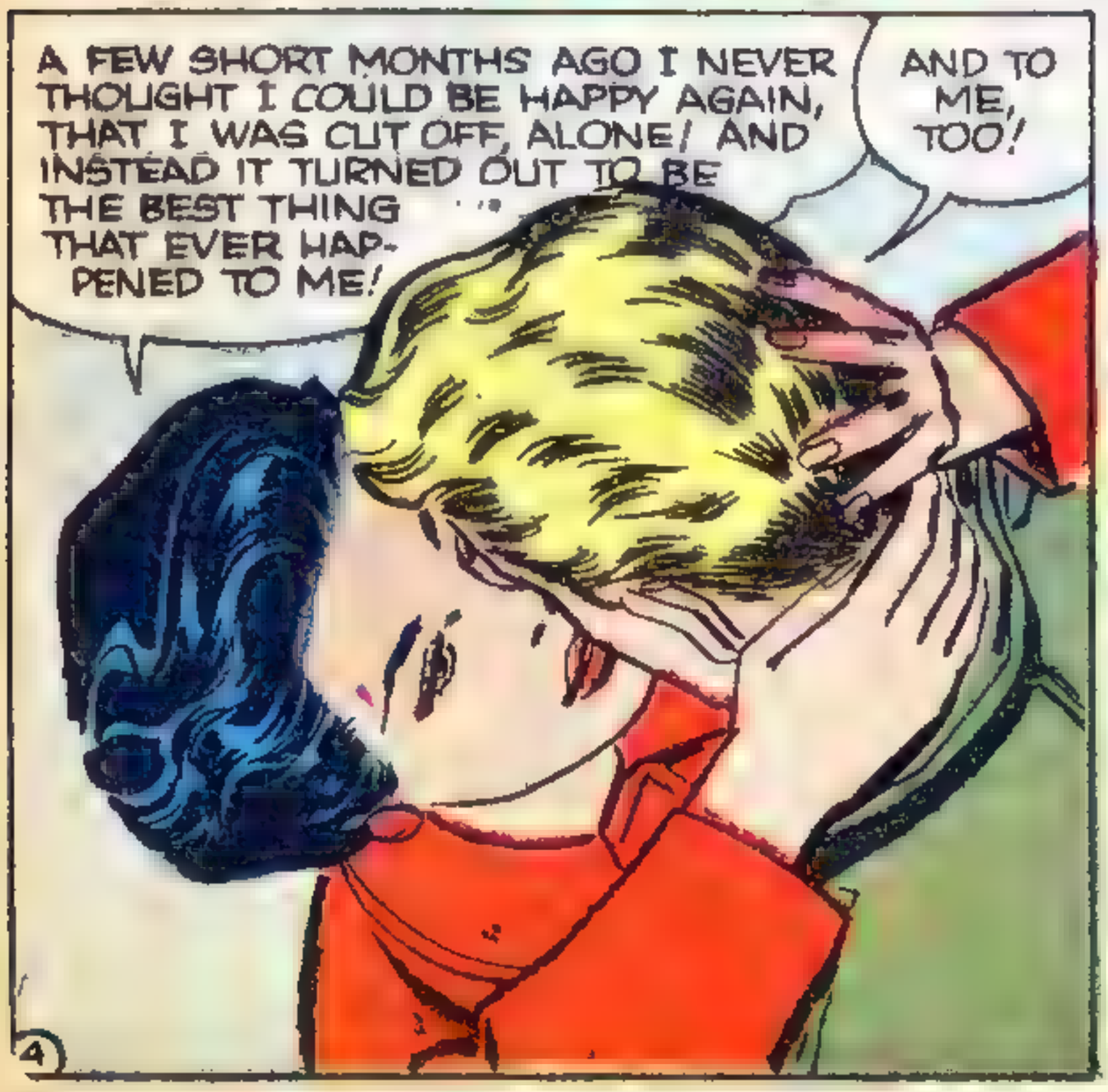
YES, IT WASN'T THE SMART, SOPHISTICATED DATING I HAD BEEN ACCUSTOMED TO, BUT THESE WERE THE MOST REWARDING MOMENTS I HAD EVER KNOWN...

THERE WAS SO MUCH WE HAD IN COMMON. OUR WORK IN SCHOOL, OUR JOBS, OUR FUTURE HOPES

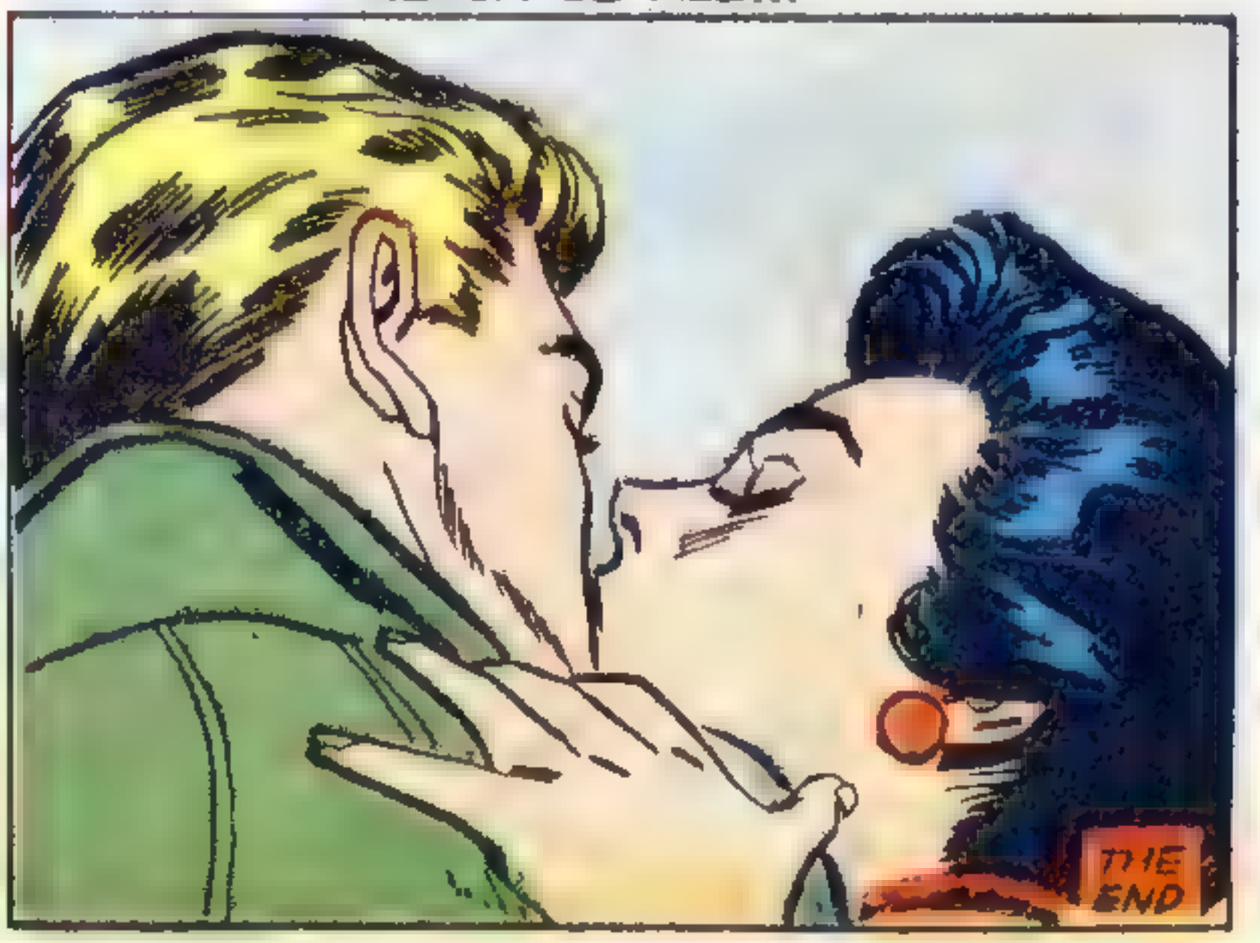
I'LL BE GRADUATING THIS JUNE, YOU KNOW, AND ENGINEERS ARE PRETTY MUCH IN DEMAND! AND I WAS THINKING IF, WELL, IF YOU AND I COULD SEE OUR WAY CLEAR TO...
TO WHAT...?

HE BLURTED IT OUT, BUT IT MADE THE NICEST MUSIC I HAD EVER HEARD...


I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU, JOYCE, THAT'S WHAT! WHY CAN'T WE GET ENGAGED NOW, AND A WEDDING IN THE FALL? HOW DOES IT SOUND?
WONDERFUL, DARLING! JUST WONDERFUL!


A FEW SHORT MONTHS AGO I NEVER THOUGHT I COULD BE HAPPY AGAIN, THAT I WAS CUT OFF, ALONE! AND INSTEAD IT TURNED OUT TO BE THE BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO ME!
AND TO ME, TOO!

HE DREW ME CLOSE AND OUR LIPS MET. IT WAS A MOMENT OF SUPREME JOY AND GREAT REVELATION. THAT HAPPINESS AND ROMANCE IS NOT LIMITED TO ANY SET RULES OF PLACE OR ECONOMIC STATUS. RICH OR POOR, COLLEGE STUDENT OR WORKING GIRL, HIGH STATION OR LOW, LOVE CAN REACH US ALL...



TO KISS OR NOT TO KISS, THAT IS THE QUESTION! BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT WAS THE ANSWER! COULD IT BE ANSWERED BY EITHER *YES* OR *NO*, OR WERE THEY BOTH WRONG?

THAT FIRST KISS!

IT WAS INTERMISSION AT THE COLLEGE YEAR DANCE, AND I HAD JUST STEPPED OUTSIDE FOR A BREATH OF AIR WHEN...

OH! I'M TERRIBLY SORRY!

T-173

R. HEATH

IN ANOTHER MOMENT THEY HAD PARTED! DORIS CALVERT WAS MY ROOMMATE, A STUNNING, POPULAR GIRL! OF COURSE, I FELT TERRIBLY EMBARRASSED...

I'M SORRY! I--I HAD NO IDEA...

DON'T BE SILLY, KAY! WE'VE NO MONOPOLY ON THE TERRACE! BESIDES, MEET JOE CLARK, HE'S DOING SOME GRADUATE WORK FOR HIS M.A.!

I MADE A FEW POLITE INQUIRIES AND THEN ASKED TO BE EXCUSED! ACTUALLY THE EMBARRASSMENT LINGERED! NOT FOR DORIS OF COURSE, BUT FOR MYSELF! IN A WAY SHE MIGHT HAVE BEEN AMUSED...

I--I FEEL LIKE A PERFECT FOOL!

THAT NIGHT, AFTER THE DANCE, DORIS AS USUAL GAVE ME THE BENEFIT OF WHAT SHE SUPPOSEDLY BELIEVED TO BE EXCELLENT ADVICE FOR ANY COED TO FOLLOW, AND MYSELF IN PARTICULAR...

I KNOW YOU DISAPPROVE OF MY KISSING TACTICS, BUT YOU CAN'T ARGUE WITH SUCCESS! I'M POPULAR AND HAVE ALL THE DATES I WANT, WHICH IS MORE THAN YOU CAN SAY!

THAT'S TRUE ENOUGH...

ONLY I CAN'T APPROVE! IT'S NOT THAT I'M A PRUDE! IT'S JUST THAT I BELIEVE A GIRL SHOULDN'T TAKE KISSING LIGHTLY! WHEN SHE'S MET THE RIGHT ONE, WELL, THAT'S DIFFERENT... BUT NOT JUST ANY DATE!

SUIT YOURSELF, EVEN IF YOU ARE BEHIND THE TIMES!

FOR THE MOMENT THAT ENDED THE DISCUSSION, BUT THINGS WERE TO CHANGE WITH THE NEW SEMESTER! THAT IS WHEN I MET DON WARREN! WE WERE IN THE SAME CHEMISTRY CLASS, AND I LIKED HIM RIGHT FROM THE START... HE WAS GOOD LOOKING, INTELLIGENT, A PERSON I COULD RESPECT...

MIND IF I WALK ALONG WITH YOU, KAY? I'D LIKE YOUR VIEWS ON PROFESSOR GOTH'S LAST LECTURE!

OF COURSE, DON! FRANKLY THOUGH, IT WOULD BE MORE INTERESTING TO HEAR YOURS!

ON THE WAY BACK WE STOPPED AT THE CAMPUS CAFE, A POPULAR MEETING PLACE FOR THE COLLEGE CROWD! TO MY DISMAY DORIS SUDDENLY POPPED IN! I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO MAKE THE INTRODUCTIONS, AND THEN SHE HAD TAKEN OVER COMPLETELY...

KAY SAYS YOU'RE A WHIZZ AT CHEM, WHICH HAPPENS TO BE MY WEAKEST SUBJECT! WOULD YOU BE AGAINST COACHING ME? AS A MATTER OF FACT I'VE AN EXAM COMING UP TOMORROW, AND I'D BE **SO** GRATEFUL!

WELL, IF I COULD HELP...

OBVIOUS AS HER METHODS WERE, THEY DID WORK! DON ARRANGED TO MEET HER AT THE LIBRARY THAT EVENING! OF COURSE HE INVITED ME BUT THE GLINT OF AMUSEMENT IN DORIS' EYE, SO SUPERIOR AND CONFIDENT, DRAINED ALL CONFIDENCE FROM ME...

I SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN UP SO EASILY! I PLAYED INTO HER HANDS!

IT WAS PAST ELEVEN WHEN I HEARD THEM RETURN! DESPITE A FEELING OF GUILT I WENT TO THE WINDOW! DORIS' VOICE, UNMISTAKINGLY CLEAR, BROUGHT AN ANGUISHED THROB TO MY HEART...

IT WAS SO SWEET OF YOU TO HELP ME, DON! WORDS ALONE COULDN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH!

I'M GLAD I COULD HELP, DORIS...

THE SILENCE THAT FOLLOWED WAS ALL TOO SIGNIFICANT! WHAT MY EYES COULDN'T SEE, MY MIND IMAGINED ONLY TOO WELL...

THAT NIGHT I CRIED MYSELF TO SLEEP! I HAD TOO MUCH PRIDE TO SAY A WORD ABOUT MY FEELINGS TO DORIS... BUT ONE THING I DID KNOW, I WAS IN LOVE WITH DON, ALTHOUGH I KNEW MY CAUSE WAS HOPELESS...

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, AND YET IT'S TRUE! DORIS' METHOD DOES WORK...THERE'S NO ARGUING WITH SUCCESS...AND STILL I COULDN'T USE HER TACTICS ...I COULDN'T...

SO I WITHDREW, GAVE HER THE COMPLETE FIELD, AND DID EVERYTHING TO AVOID DON! MEANWHILE, DORIS DIDN'T CONCEAL HER FEELINGS ABOUT DON! I BELIEVE SHE HAD REALLY FALLEN FOR HIM, BUT DIFFERENT THAN MYSELF, SHE WAS OUT TO WIN AT ALL COSTS...

HERE THEY COME! I DON'T WANT THEM TO SEE ME!

I HID, AND I FELT ASHAMED, AND YET I COULDN'T FACE THEM...THE HUMILIATION WOULD HAVE BEEN TOO MUCH...

IT WAS A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN I WAS AT THE POINT OF MOVING OUT, GIVING UP COMPLETELY, WHEN THE PHONE RANG! INSTANTLY I RECOGNIZED HIS VOICE, AND I SAID THE FIRST THING THAT CAME TO MIND...

DORIS ISN'T HERE, DON! SH--SHE WENT OUT EARLIER...

BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO SPEAK TO HER! I WANT TO SEE YOU, KAY! WILL YOU MEET ME IN FRONT OF THE LIBRARY? PLEASE DON'T SAY NO!

I MET HIM AS HE ASKED, BUT I WAS TERRIBLY CONFUSED! I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND THE URGENCY OF THIS MEETING! HESITANTLY I APPROACHED, AND A MOMENT LATER WE WERE FACE TO FACE, HIS EYES SEARCHING MINE...

I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START, KAY, BUT I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN AVOIDING ME! YOU HAVE, HAVEN'T YOU?

WELL...I...

AT FIRST I WAS GOING TO BEG OFF, AVOID ALL FURTHER DISCUSSION, BUT SUDDENLY I CHANGED MY MIND! THIS TIME I WOULD NOT RUN AND HIDE! THIS WAS MY LAST CHANCE TO SPEAK! FIGHTING DOWN THE TEARS IN MY VOICE I AIRED MY VIEWS...

...AND THAT'S IT, DON! IT WAS PRETTY OBVIOUS THAT DORIS DID MEAN MORE! NOT THAT I BLAME YOU! SHE'S VERY PRETTY, FUN TO BE WITH AND...

HOLD IT RIGHT, THERE, KAY... PLEASE...

SUDDENLY HE HAD GRIPPED MY ARMS! HIS VOICE LOW AND INTENT CARRIED THE RING OF SINCERITY...

DORIS DOESN'T MEAN A THING, KAY! SHE NEVER COULD! I NEVER WANTED US TO DRIFT APART! I TRIED TO TALK TO YOU BUT YOU KEPT AVOIDING ME! BUT DORIS' EASY KISSES NEVER COUNTED WITH ME...

I'M NOT TRYING TO AVOID ALL RESPONSIBILITY, BUT I WANTED YOU TO KNOW HOW I REALLY FELT... EVEN IF IT IS TOO LATE!

BUT IT ISN'T, DON...NOT NOW...

I THOUGHT I LOST OUT TO DORIS! IN A WAY HER TACTICS SEEMED SO SUCCESSFUL! I REALLY BEGAN TO WONDER! I HAD BEGUN TO LOSE FAITH IN THE THINGS I HAD REALLY BELIEVED IN! WORSE YET, I ALMOST LOST FAITH IN YOU, BUT IT'S BEEN RESTORED!

FROM THAT POINT ON THINGS CHANGED RAPIDLY! IN A LITTLE WHILE DON AND I WERE A STEADY TWOSOME...

I'VE WRITTEN HOME TO MY FOLKS AND TOLD THEM ABOUT YOU! THEY'RE ANXIOUS TO MEET YOU!

AND I'D LOVE TO MEET THEM!

NOT LONG AFTERWARDS, I HAD THE HAPPIEST MOMENT IN MY LIFE WHEN DON PROPOSED AND SURPRISED ME WITH AN ENGAGEMENT RING...

WE CAN GET MARRIED RIGHT AFTER GRADUATION, AND THEN A WHOLE LIFE TOGETHER!

I'M SO HAPPY, DARLING! I CAN BARELY SPEAK!

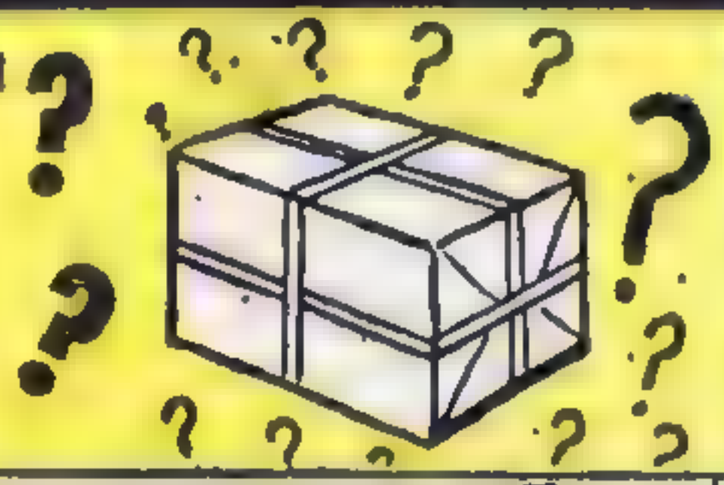
GENTLY HE DREW ME CLOSE AND OUR LIPS MET! MY WAY HAD PROVEN THE RIGHT WAY AFTER ALL! DORIS' EASY KISSES HAD BROUGHT HER NOTHING BUT A SENSE OF MOMENTARY TRIUMPH... WHEREAS MY WAY WAS TO BRING ME PERMANENT AND LASTING HAPPINESS, FROM THIS VERY FIRST KISS AND ALL THE OTHERS TO FOLLOW... DOWN THROUGH THE WONDERFUL HAPPY YEARS AHEAD...

THE END

TOYS! TRICKS! SURPRISES! GALORE

More Fun Than You've Ever Known

SURPRISE PACKAGE



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Only 50¢

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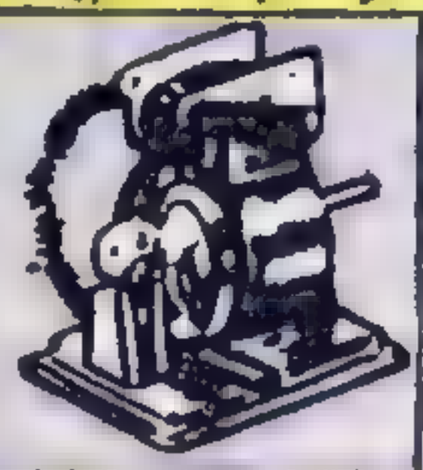
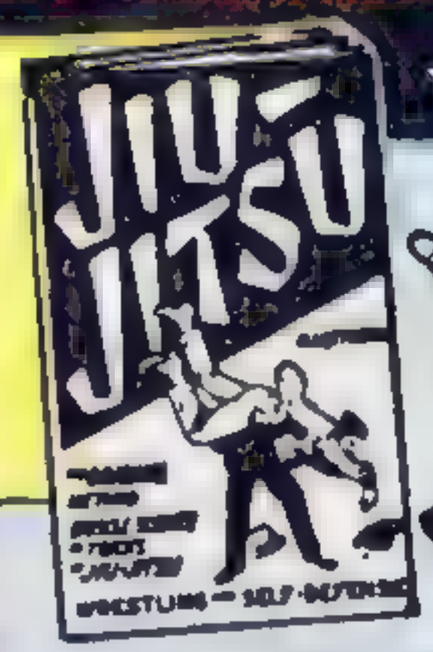
Drives All Models



Yes, now you can have an actual electric motor for just 50¢. It sounds unbelievable, but it's true. This compact little kit makes it a cinch to build this high power unit. And the fun you're going to get driving your model planes, boats, etc. Comes complete with easy to follow instructions for assembly.

No. 852 ..... 50¢



If This Should Happen to You Would You Know This Quick Defense

YOU, TOO, CAN BE TOUGH

Master Jiu Jitsu and you'll win any fight. This book gives you all the grips, blocks, etc., which are so effective in counter-attacking a bully or hold-up. You don't need big muscles or weight, know-how makes you the sure winner. We also send you FREE book on how to perform strong man stunts, tear a telephone book in half, etc.

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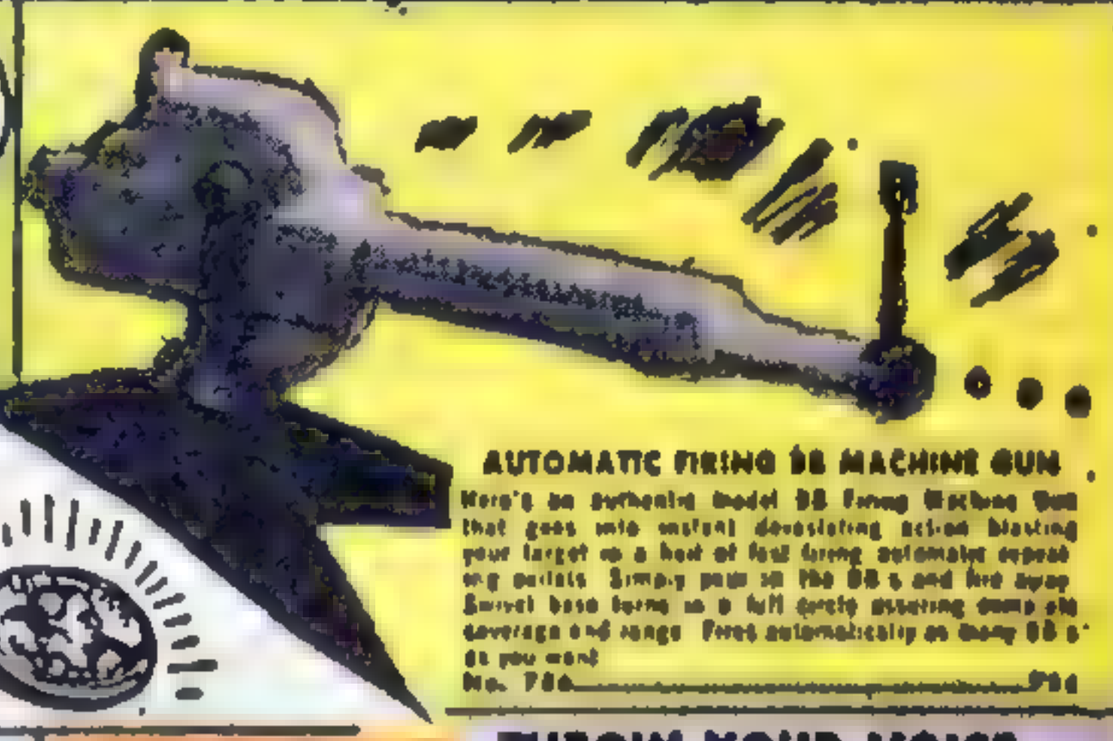

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READS UP TO 50 M.P.H.

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Will create a sensation when they see this plastic ice cube in a cool drink. It has a real bug inside.

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MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

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CONTINUED

"All right," she said, and watched Joe depart. Then, slowly, she walked toward the showers. She knew she'd hurt Bill, but after all, remember, he'd hurt her. Joe, she recalled, had faith in her. And Joe was attractive, in the bargain. Bill was all right, but Joe was better. A woman wanted to be appreciated for what she knew was her best. And Lorna smiled past the hurt on her face.

At seven, after supper, she left the dormitory and walked downtown to the small, college town hotel where Joe Rogan lived. In the lobby, as she entered, she saw Joe and her heart quickened. Then, as he moved, she saw the woman.

The woman was middle-sized, attractive and well-dressed, but her face was fixed on Joe's with an intensity of expression that astonished Lorna.

"You got what you wanted, didn't you?" Lorna heard Joe say angrily. "Now clear out!"

The woman paused helplessly, looked at him for a moment, then turned.

"Oh, Lorna," Joe said, smiling suddenly as he caught sight of her. His eyes narrowed as Lorna's followed the woman. "Oh, her," he began. "Just a pest."

"She looks tired," Lorna observed. "Even though she is well-dressed."

"She's better heeled than you are," Joe said. "Come on over to this booth. I've brought the contract."

Lorna glanced at the woman again as she and Joe walked over to a booth. A queer pang struck at her heart. She'd seen her face somewhere before, but — where, Lorna asked herself.

They sat down. Joe took her hand and held it for a moment. Her heart thrilled a little, then it slowed and an odd feeling of emptiness went through her.

"You can sign here," Joe said, producing a pen. "Then you open in the city in two weeks for demonstration work. Of course, you'll be making more dough in a year than now, but . . ." He paused. "Say, what's the matter?"

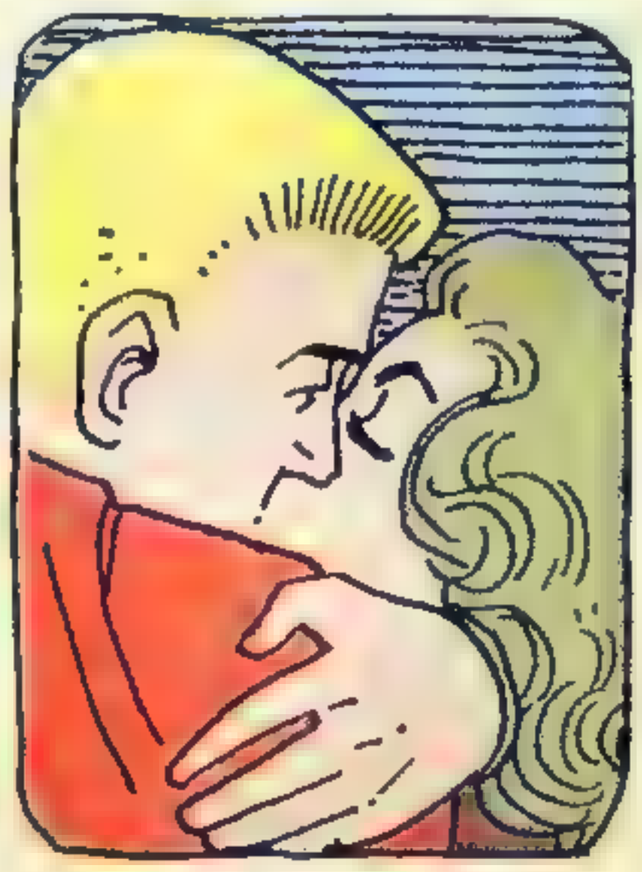
She was staring, wide-eyed, across the lobby at the wall.

"Lorna — what's wrong?"

"Give me your pen," she said. When she took it, she scratched it down the contract sheet contemptuously, obliterating lines of print. Then she crumpled it and tossed it into an ashtray.

"You're backing out?" he demanded.

"I've been a fool, Joe Rogan," Lorna said defiantly. Her eyes, steely, fixed his. "Now I know who that woman was who was talking to you. It's Margaret Lee. There's her picture on the wall over there, along with other college athletes, along with mine. She left Middlestate before I



came, and I never remembered her—until I realized she was connected with you!"

"So what?" Joe Rogan demanded, but his hands shook. "She got a good year's work in, in professional swimming. She's made dough!"

"I'm not against honest professional swimming groups," Lorna said bitterly. "Just four-flushers, like you and your kind! I read just the other day she'd developed a bad heart overstraining it at professional work, work she was warned against by doctors, work she took because it promised plenty of money. I see it made her some, but now she's worn out!"

"Aw, she wants too much!" Joe growled, a look in his eyes.

Lorna stood up; she hadn't seen that look of greediness before.

"I can guess the rest. She came to you for help, more work, Joe. But your group couldn't use her any more, could they, after they'd lied her into giving up her pre-med education as a doctor, education she can't continue with, now!"

"What do you care about people like her?" Joe grunted.

"I do care," Lorna said firmly. "Because I've found out, right now, how important it is to care for someone who really cares for me enough to tell me the truth even if it hurts—someone like Bill Norrell. Bill was right about me. But you were ready to sacrifice me as Margaret Lee was sacrificed just to earn your fee as a talent scout, even if you knew my talent wouldn't last a year. Why, I'm not even as good as Margaret Lee was. I should have listened to Bill. And I will now—if he'll have me!"

She crossed to the lobby's phone booths, her heart skipping. She knew what she had to do; call Bill, apologize, tell him she'd given up going into pro-swimming, that she'd swim—to win—in the intercollegiate meet. Then her heart almost stopped as the phone rang on and on, unanswered.

Suddenly, on the other end, it clicked.

"B-Bill?" she began nervously.

Bill's voice at the other end sounded cold. But she had to go ahead anyhow and make him understand that she saw her mistake. She took a deep breath, as if she were about to dive into icy waters, and told Bill everything. Then waited.

Her face paled. Then it brightened suddenly. Then paled again. At last it glowed. It glowed the way it had when Bill first told her he loved her.

THE END C-318

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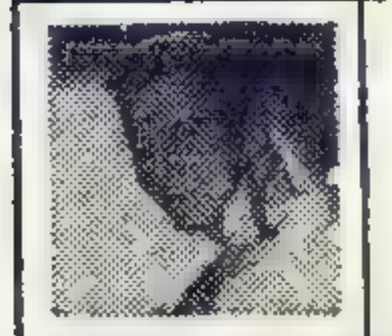

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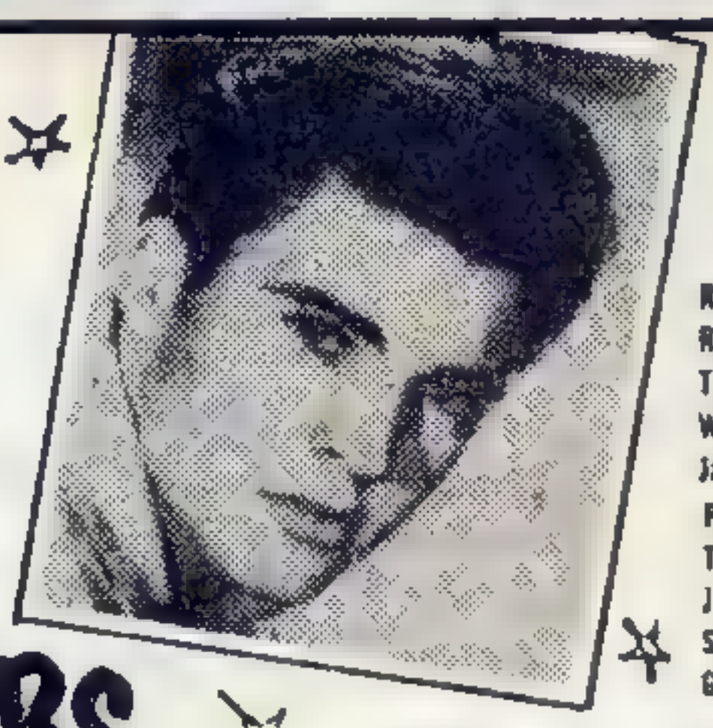

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I'LL KNOW HIM WHEN HE COMES ALONG

DID MY IDEAL MAN REALLY EXIST, OR WAS HE SOMETHING I HAD SPUN UP OUT OF A GIRLISH, ROMANTIC DREAM? THIS WAS THE QUESTION I KEPT ASKING MYSELF... BUT DESPITE THE PASSAGE OF TIME AND AN ENDLESS LONGING, I STILL WENT UNANSWERED...

THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK YOU, CATHY! IT MEANS A GREAT DEAL TO ME... TO BOTH OF US, I HOPE!

BUT IT'S GETTING LATE, GEORGE! COULDN'T IT WAIT?

T-165

HE RELEASED ME, AND I KNEW THAT MY ANSWER HAD HURT HIM, AND YET I COULDN'T HAVE ACTED DIFFERENTLY...

I CAN SEE IT'S NO USE, CATHY! YOU KNEW THAT I WAS GOING TO PROPOSE, ASK YOU TO BE MY WIFE...

I'M SORRY, GEORGE... PLEASE TRY TO UNDERSTAND!

I CAN UNDERSTAND ONE THING, YOU DON'T LOVE ME, AND I WISH IT WERE DIFFERENT! GOOD-BYE, CATHY, AND I HOPE YOU FIND THE RIGHT MAN!

ALONE IN MY ROOM, I ONCE AGAIN GAVE MY PROBLEM MUCH SEARCHING THOUGHT...

WITH GEORGE EVERYTHING IS SO SERIOUS... SO GRIM...

SOMEHOW IT MADE ME THINK OF PAUL! I HAD DATED HIM BEFORE GEORGE, ONLY IT WAS THE SAME STORY BUT WITH AN OPPOSITE TWIST...

C'MON, CATHY, JUST ONE MORE WHIRL AROUND--

THREE TIMES 'ROUND IS ENOUGH FOR ME, PAUL! I'VE HAD IT!

IF GEORGE REPRESENTED THE SERIOUS TYPE, PAUL WAS THE BOYISH KIND WHO NEVER GROW UP...

BUT YOU CAN'T BE BUSY THE NEXT THREE SATURDAYS IN A ROW!

BUT I AM! GOOD NIGHT, PAUL! IT WAS FUN!

AND BEFORE PAUL, THERE WAS HARRY ONLY HE WAS SO STUFFY! AND BILL... TIED TO HIS MOTHER'S APRON STRINGS...

AND SO FINALLY I FELL ASLEEP, AND IN MY DREAMS, AS IT SO OFTEN HAPPENED, I SAW MY IDEAL! STRAIGHT AND TALL HE'D STAND AND I WOULD FEEL MYSELF AGLOW WITH AN INDESCRIBABLE HAPPINESS...

AND BEST OF ALL WAS THE KNOWLEDGE THAT HE LOVED ME AS MUCH AS I LOVED HIM! GENTLY HE WOULD TAKE ME IN HIS ARMS AND OUR LIPS WOULD MEET...

AS TIME PASSED, MY FRIENDS, ONE BY ONE WERE GETTING MARRIED WHILE I LOOKED ON WAITING, WONDERING, TRYING TO BE HOPEFUL...

I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE UP! I-I WON'T...

JUST MARRIED

BUT WAS IT A GROWING SENSE OF DESPAIR THAT MADE ME CRITICAL OF MY FRIENDS AND THE MATES THEY HAD CHOSEN...?

I FRANKLY CAN'T SEE WHAT ELLEN SAW IN MAC! HE'S NICE ENOUGH I SUPPOSE BUT HE NEVER HAS MUCH TO SAY!

AND THERE WAS ANOTHER PUZZLING DETAIL! MY MARRIED FRIENDS SEEMED VERY HAPPY DESPITE THE FACT THAT THEIR HUSBANDS COULD CERTAINLY NOT BE CLASSIFIED AS THE IDEAL TYPE...

...AND PETE AND I ARE MOVING INTO OUR NEW HOME NEXT MONTH!

IT SOUNDS WONDERFUL, ALICE!

MAYBE I AM BEING A FOOL, MAYBE MY IDEAL MAN DOESN'T EXIST!

CHEER

THEN IT HAPPENED AT ALICE'S HOUSEWARMING! SEEMINGLY WHEN I LEAST EXPECTED IT, I MET HIM... MY IDEAL...

I CAME CLOSE TO TURNING DOWN ALICE'S INVITATION-- NOW I'M GLAD I CAME!

THANK YOU! SO AM I!

EVERYTHING ABOUT HIM WAS RIGHT! THE WAY HE SPOKE, DANCED... HIS VIEWS ON LIFE... EVERYTHING! AND WHEN HE TOOK ME HOME...

HOW ABOUT SATURDAY NIGHT, CATHY? AND WE'LL KEEP IT A TWOSOME!

WONDERFUL, CARL! I'D LOVE TO!

MY JOY WAS BOUNDLESS, MY HAPPINESS COMPLETE! HOW GLAD I WAS THAT I HAD NOT GIVEN UP HOPE...THAT I HAD KEPT FAITH WITH MY DREAM...

SOON, WE WERE DATING STEADILY, AND HOW PROUD I WAS TO BE WITH HIM...

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, CATHY! THAT ALL RIGHT WITH YOU?

OF COURSE, CARL! WHATEVER YOU SAY!

WE WENT FOR A DRIVE, AND WHEN HE PARKED BENEATH THE STAR-FILLED SKY...

I'VE BEEN WANTING TO SAY THIS FOR SOME TIME, CATHY, AND I DON'T THINK IT WILL COME AS A SURPRISE! I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH YOU, DARLING! WHAT ABOUT YOU?

THE SAME, CARL... FOR QUITE A WHILE!

THEN THERE'S NOTHING TO HOLD US, AND I HATE LONG ENGAGEMENTS!

SO DO I, DARLING!

THIS TIME IT WASN'T A DREAM ONLY TO FADE AWAY! THIS TIME IT WAS REAL, HIS ARMS, HIS NEARNESS, THE TOUCH OF HIS LIPS ON MINE...

BY THE END OF THE MONTH OUR ENGAGEMENT WAS ANNOUNCED, WITH AN EARLY DATE FOR THE WEDDING SET!

THEN ONE AFTERNOON, WHILE HAVING LUNCH ALONE, I HEARD A PAIR OF FAMILIAR VOICES...

I HEAR THAT CATHY FINALLY FOUND HER IDEAL MAN! HAVE YOU MET HIM?

I INTRODUCED THEM, AND FRANKLY I WAS SURPRISED THEY HIT IT OFF! I MEAN CARL IS LIKABLE AND ALL, BUT I NEVER THOUGHT OF HIM AS CATHY'S TYPE!

I ALWAYS IMAGINED THAT CATHY WOULD SETTLE FOR NOTHING LESS THAN THE SMOOTH, DEBONAIR TYPE AND A KIND OF MENTAL GIANT ALL ROLLED INTO ONE! ACTUALLY CARL IS NEITHER!

WELL, AS THEY SAY, TO EACH HIS OWN!

IT WAS ALMOST MORE THAN I COULD STAND...

HOW DARE THEY SAY SUCH THINGS ABOUT CARL! HE HAPPENS TO BE VERY DEBONAIR, AND SMOOTH AND HE HAS AN EXCELLENT MIND! THEY MUST BE STONE BLIND!

BUT SUDDENLY I RECALLED SOMETHING AND IT CALMED MY ANGER ALMOST INSTANTLY...

WAIT A MINUTE, WASN'T I ONCE JUST AS CRITICAL OF ALICE'S HUSBAND? I COULDN'T IMAGINE WHAT SHE SAW IN HIM, AND COULDN'T HE HAVE BEEN HER IDEAL MAN?

Menu

YES, MAYBE NOW I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THE *IDEAL* REALLY IS, THAT IT IS NOTHING FIXED OR PERMANENT ...THAT IT CAN WEAR A THOUSAND DIFFERENT FACES AND GO BY A THOUSAND DIFFERENT NAMES! AND THE NAME OF MINE HAPPENS TO BE CARL!

TO EACH HIS OWN... HOW TRUE! UNEXPLAINABLE AS IT IS, I FEEL SO MUCH HAPPIER! THINGS HAVE REALLY WORKED OUT WELL FOR ME...

AND SO, NOT LONG AFTERWARDS, I MARRIED THE IDEAL MAN I HAD SOUGHT AND SO FORTUNATELY FOUND! PERHAPS HE WASN'T THE IDEAL MAN IN THE EYES OF ALL THE WORLD, BUT HE WAS... IN MINE!

The End

REDUCE don't be FAT!

CHEW IMPROVED FORMULA CHEWING GUM

REDUCE UP TO 5 lbs. A WEEK

Amazing New Easy Way Quickly Takes Off Pounds and Inches Faster Than You Ever Dreamed Possible!

If you are fat, overweight and embarrassed when you undress because of too many bulges—mail the coupon for KELPIDINE TODAY! KELPIDINE plan can quickly take off 10 to 20 lbs. or more of excess fat so fast it will amaze you. KELPIDINE chewing gum is a wonder of medical science . . . entirely safe, not a harmful drug. Instead a delicious pleasantly flavored good tasting chewing gum plus an essential *mineral* needed in the body. You lose weight most where you have excess fat stored!

START LOSING WEIGHT IN 24 HOURS!

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GO FROM THIS TO THIS

MAIL THIS NO RISK COUPON TODAY!

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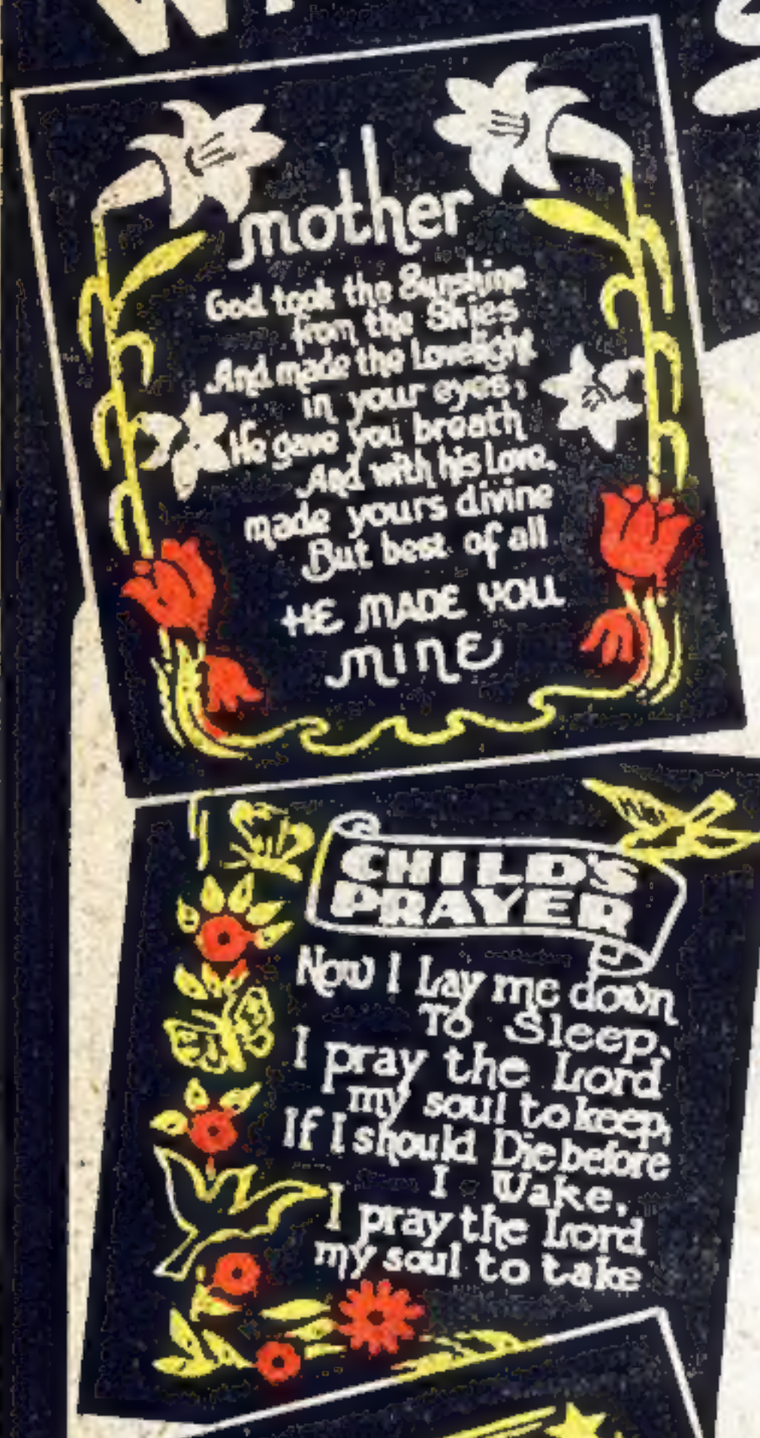

CHILD'S PRAYER
Now I Lay me down to Sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep,
If I should Die before I Wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take

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Just write and ask us to send you 40 of these beautiful glittering mottoes which the public likes so well. Sell them easily and quickly to your friends and neighbors for only 35¢ each. At the end of 14 days send back, if you wish, all mottoes you have not sold, and send us only 25¢ for each you have sold. You keep all the rest of the money.

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Can You UNSCRAMBLE These States?

Join the fun! Everybody can win! Test your skill. Just unscramble the names of the 4 States below, then mail us the answer with the coupon. Everybody can win. Anyone can enter.

1. **NICILAFARO** (FAMOUS FOR ORANGES)
2. **NAILAUOSI** (FAMOUS FOR SUGAR)
3. **SANOMENTI** (FAMOUS FOR LAKES)
4. **NAVINEPSALYN** (FAMOUS FOR STEEL)

EXAMPLE: DOLIFAR

ANSWER: FLORIDA

SUPPLY LIMITED

We're running this special Unscramble test to find families who would appreciate having such an amazing, real, live Miniature Pet. This is our way of getting acquainted with new customers and friends. Everyone can win. Anyone can enter.

WIN *Your Choice* NEW, LIVE MINIATURE PET

Just to get acquainted

I'll be happy to send you entirely at my expense, this alert, live, young Miniature Dog . . . or live and lovable Miniature Monkey. Simply send in your entry and hand out only twenty get-acquainted coupons to friends, relatives or neighbors and help us get that many new customers as per our premium letter. Everyone who has received such a wonderful tiny pet is simply "crazy" about their little pal and companion . . . wouldn't part with it for the world.

Please send me your favorite snapshot, photo or Kodak picture when sending your 4 names of states. We will make you a beautiful 5x7 inch enlargement in a handsome "Movietone" frame and YOU CAN TELL YOUR FRIENDS about our bargain hand-colored enlargements when handing out the get-acquainted coupons. Just mail me your favorite snapshot, print or negative NOW and pay the postman forty-nine cents and a few cents for our c.o.d. service plus postage when your treasured enlargement arrives and I'll include the "Movietone" frame at no extra cost. Your original returned with your enlargement and frame. **Also include the COLOR OF HAIR AND EYES with your picture,** so I can also give you our bargain offer on a second enlargement artfully hand-colored in oils for natural beauty, sparkle and life, like we have done for thousands of others.

I'm so anxious to send you **your choice of a miniature dog or miniature monkey** that I hope you will send me your answer with your name, address and also include your favorite snapshot, right away and get your twenty get-acquainted coupons to hand out. Mrs. Ruth Long, Gift Manager.

Miniature Monkey

About the tiniest monkey you will see. You can hold it in your hand, yet it is healthy and so intelligent it is almost human. Eats ordinary foods. Clean and lovable.

Miniature DOG

Think of having such an unusual pet. This lovable, young miniature DOG is so tiny you can carry it in your pocket or hold it in one hand, yet it barks and is a reliable watch dog as well as a pal. Active, healthy, intelligent and clean.

HURRY!
SEND TODAY

Your names of the four States must be received promptly. Don't delay.

DEAN STUDIOS (OUR 20th YEAR)

Dept. X-588, 211 W. 7th St., Des Moines 2, Iowa

DEAN STUDIOS, Dept. X-588, 211 W. 7th St., Des Moines 2, Iowa

Please enter my name for the Miniature Pet of my choice and send me the twenty get-acquainted coupons to hand out. Enclosed find snapshot or negative for enlarging.

Names of States are:

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Color of Eyes.....Color of Hair.....

Name.....

Address.....

City.....

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Miniature Pet Wanted.....

Reducing Specialist Says:

LOSE WEIGHT
where it shows most
REDUCE
most any part of the body with
SPOT REDUCER

"Thanks to the Spot Reducer, I lost four inches around the hips and three inches around the waistline. It's amazing." Mary Martin, Long Island City, N. Y.

Connie Simmons, Bronx, N. Y., says: "I went from size 16 dress to a size 12 with the use of the Spot Reducer. I am glad I used it."

Like a magic wand, the "Spot Reducer" obeys your every wish. Most any part of your body where it is loose and flabby, wherever you have extra weight and inches, the "Spot Reducer" can aid you in acquiring a youthful, slender and graceful figure. The beauty of this scientifically designed Reducer is that the method is so simple and easy, the results quick, sure and harmless. No exercises or strict diets. No steam baths, drugs or laxatives.

Thousands have lost weight this way—in hips, abdomen, legs, arms, buttocks, etc. The same method used by many stage, screen and radio personalities and leading reducing salons. The "Spot Reducer" can be used in your spare time in your own room. It breaks down fatty tissues, tones the muscles and flesh, and the increased, awakened blood circulation carries away waste fat. Two weeks after using the "Spot Reducer," look in the mirror and see a more glamorous, better, firmer, slimmer figure that will delight you. You have nothing to lose but weight for the "Spot Reducer" is sold on a money-back guarantee.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE With a 10-DAY FREE TRIAL

If the "Spot Reducer" doesn't do the wonders for you as it has for others, if you don't lose weight and inches where you want to lose it most, if you're not 100% delighted with the results, your money will be returned at once.

BODY MASSAGER CO., Dept. A-687
403 Market St., Newark, New Jersey

Marie Hummel, New York, N. Y., says: "I used to wear a size 20 dress, now I wear size 14, thanks to the Spot Reducer. It was fun and I enjoyed it."

FREE

A large size jar of Special Formula Body Massage Cream will be included FREE with your order for the "Spot Reducer."

MAIL COUPON NOW!

BODY MASSAGER CO., Dept. A-687
403 Market St., Newark, New Jersey

Send me at once, for $2.98 cash, check or money order, the "Spot Reducer" and your famous Special Formula Body Massage Cream, postpaid. If I am not 100% satisfied, my money will be refunded.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!